

BOOK REVIEWS

THE NEW GENERAL PRACTICE. Articles published in the British Medical Journal. (Pp. xi+189. 15s). London: British Medical Journal, 1968.

THIS collection of articles on general practice published in the years 1966-68 is of considerable interest. Many aspects of organisation and administration are discussed, including General Practitioner Maternity Units, the use of electrocardiography and X-rays in general practice, appointment systems for surgeries, and the work of nurses in general practice. There are also sections on more general topics such as education and training, and health centres.

Of exceptional interest is the article on "Working Time in General Practice—How General Practitioners Use Their Time" which is based on observations made by 134 doctors in the Merseyside and North Wales Faculty of the Royal College of General Practitioners.

There are only two articles in the section on "Health Centres." Professor R. C. Wofinden's article is of considerable value, but the disappointing shortness of this section draws attention once again to the urgent need for investigation and research on health centre function and design.

R.P.M.

AN INTRODUCTION TO HUMAN PHYSIOLOGY. By J. H. Green. (Pp. 185 ; figs. 211. 28s). London: Oxford University Press, 1968.

MOST teachers of physiology are suspicious of short introductory texts for medical students. They usually feel that brevity has been attained by having the subject treated in a superficial manner. The present book is an exception to the rule. Green has now produced the second edition of this very popular text. The book which was published in 1963 provides an introduction to human physiology together with a brief introduction to biochemistry. It is especially written for medical students who are just starting their course or have had some knowledge of physics, chemistry and biology. It would also be useful for dental students, physiotherapy students and as a textbook for a short course in physiology. The earlier edition has always been popular with students. Though the attractive low price may have contributed to this popularity the clarity of the style and the diagrams must also have been a factor. The new edition has been considerably revised and new chapters have been included, but the successful formula has not been radically altered. There has also been some expansion but not enough to make the book unnecessarily bulky. Though it is a pleasure to recommend the book to people starting courses in physiology such a recommendation is unnecessary since they will probably buy it anyway.

I.C.R.

GRANT'S DISSECTOR. By J. C. B. Grant. Sixth Edition. (Pp. xvi+451 ; illustrated, 62s 6d). Baltimore: The Williams & Wilkins Co., 1967.

THIS book is a guide to the dissection of the human body. The more important structures are indicated in bold type and the less important in italics. The text is well written and the illustrations straightforward. There is, however, little attempt to teach the principles of anatomy in this book, but these are well presented in the author's *Method of Anatomy*. Although the book illustrates many of the dissections, students normally would require additional visual aid, and the author has given references throughout the text to plates in his *Atlas* which will be of great help. Instructions for the dissection of the foetus and the bull's eye have been added to this edition.

As a guide to the display of the structures of the human body this book is recommended with the proviso that its usefulness is enhanced by reference to the author's *Atlas*.

T.J.H.